THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) As reported by the States/UTs, the details regarding number of road accidents, persons killed and persons injured on all the roads during the years 2003, 2004 and 2005 (the latest available data) are as under:—

Year	Road accidents	Persons killed	Persons injured
2003	406726	85998	435122
2004	429910	92618	464521
2005	439255	94968	465282

(c) and (d) The draft National Road Safety Policy prepared by this Department was referred to Committee on Road Safety and Traffic Management alongwith the inputs received from various forums for its consideration. The Committee has submitted the modified draft National Road Safety Policy which is under examination in this Ministry.

Corruption at check posts on highways

1886. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact, as reported by Transparency International, that the truck owners in the country have to pay about Rs. 20,000 crores as bribe every year to checkpost officials on Highways for easy passage;

(b) if so, the remedial measures Government propose to take to curb this evil; and

(c) whether Government have ever estimated the annual loss of revenue due to the said corrupt practices being adopted by the checkpost officials and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The

Government is aware of a news item titled "Trucks roll on Rs. 22000 - cr 'grease' road" published in The Hindustan Times on 2nd February, 2007 wherein it has been stated that the Indian chapter of Transparency International has conducted a survey which, *inter-alia*, alleged that the truckers are paying bribes to the enforcement authorities at the check posts. The details of the survey report are not available with this Department.

(b) Regulation of motor vehicle trafffic rests with the State Governments. The State Governments have been advised to take appropriate steps to plug loop holes in the enforcement system to eliminate the alleged corruption in the road transport sector.

(c) No, Sir.

Construction works under NHDP-II

†1887. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that approval to National Highways Development Project (NHDP) phase-II, wherein a length of 6,706 kilometres road construction and extension was to be undertaken, had been accorded in 2003;

(b) if not, the facts thereof and whether the project was targeted to be finally completed by December, 2007;

(c) if not, the facts thereof; and

(d) the length of road in terms of kilometres whose construction had been completed by December, 2006 under this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir. National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-II was approved by the Government in December, 2003.

(b) and (c) Substantial completion is targeted by December, 2008.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.